

NSTA Learning Center

**Professional Development
Indexer & SciPacks**

Professional Development Indexer

What is the Professional Development Indexer?

The Professional Development Indexer helps you diagnose your needs in specific science content areas and provide suggestions of NSTA e-PD resources and opportunities you may want to consider as you plan your professional development (PD).

The Indexer does not assign a grade or present a score to the questions you answer, but saves a list of recommended resources for later review.

How will we use the PD Indexer?

- We will start by asking you to diagnose your needs within the eight content areas of the Earth and Space Science Indexer.
- You will be presented with five questions randomly selected from each of these content areas.
- Oceans Effect on Weather and Climate
- Rock Cycle
- Gravity and Orbits
- Earth's Changing Surface
- Plate Tectonics
- Earth, Sun and Moon
- Universe
- Solar System

Professional Learning Tools

How to Start

Select the Professional Learning Tools tab from within your Learning Center account.

My Learning Plan

[Create My Learning Plan](#)

My Learning Plan allows you to create a personalized plan that outlines your professional learning experiences over a period of time.

To Do

No items scheduled

[View My Learning Plan](#)

Completed

No items completed

[View My Learning Plan](#)

My Certificates

[View My Certificates](#)

You may print your transcripts and certificates and present them to an administrator who requires documentation that you participated in an NSTA conference, or for completion of an NSTA learning experience.

Not sure what to do next?

Index your professional growth needs...

Choose from 25 content areas...

Select...

[Click here to select a group of subjects to diagnose](#)[View results and recommendations from previous assessments](#)

Next?

“Click here to select a group of subjects to diagnose”

Not sure what to do next?

Index your professional growth needs...

Choose from 25 content areas...

Select...

[Click here to select a group of subjects to diagnose](#)

[View results and recommendations from previous assessments](#)

Select “Diagnose All Subjects”

Earth and Space Science Indexer

Content Areas Covered:

- ☐ Oceans Effect on Weather and Climate
- ☐ Rock Cycle
- ☐ Gravity and Orbits
- ☐ Earth's Changing Surface
- ☐ Plate Tectonics
- ☐ Earth, Sun and Moon
- ☐ Universe
- ☐ Solar System

Diagnose Selected Subjects

Diagnose All Subjects

Completed Indexes

Indexes in Progress

Begin Assessment

Earth and Space Science Indexer

This indexer contains 40 questions (5 from each of the science content areas covered). After you have completed the indexer you will receive your diagnostic feedback broken down by content area, along with suggested resources for your consideration as you plan your professional development.

[Begin Assessment](#)

SciPacks

Review your diagnostic feedback

- Review the number of items you earned correct out of 5 for each content area.
- Determine an area that would be of most use to you to learn more about for the content and grade level(s) that you teach.
- We will ask you to complete a **SciPack** for the content area of your choice for Earth & Space Science.
-
- SciPacks are 10 hour online learning experiences that you can use to help you better understand the content you teach. SciPacks are aligned with the national science education standards.

What's included in a SciPack?

- Up to **five** self-paced interactive online learning experiences called **Science Objects** that use an inquiry-based approach with engaging simulations and embedded questions.
- An email content **Mentor** to address your individual questions; these knowledgeable content experts respond via email within 48 hours.
- A **pedagogical component** to assist you in translating the content for your classroom.
- The opportunity to pass a **final assessment** and print a certificate from NSTA demonstrating your understanding of the content addressed within the SciPack. The certificate can be found in the "My PD Record and Certificates" tool page.

How will SciPacks help you learn?

- In the **Science Objects** you will find *Interactive simulations* to get you engaged and *embedded questions* to make sure you understand and remember the content. The style and tone can be lively—even entertaining.
- SciPacks challenge you to explore and explain *real-world phenomena*, and offer *student misconceptions* to watch out for and practical ideas for addressing them.
- You will spend up to ten hours, at your convenience. *You can start and stop at any point.*

How do I get started with my SciPack?

- The SciPack will be listed as one of the recommended resources within the content area you tested.
- You can browse for the SciPack you want within the Learning Center search window.
- Use the following weblink
 - <http://learningcenter.nsta.org/scipacks.aspx>
 - Select “Earth and Space Science” to browse the SciPacks available.



Browse SciPacks

- [All SciPacks](#)
- [Earth and Space Science](#)
- [Physical Science](#)
- [Life Science](#)

Once you've found it - click "Add to Library via Subscription and Open"

Free via Your
Subscription

Add to Library
via
Subscription &
Open

[Add to Learning Plan](#)

Share

[f Share on Facebook](#)

[t Tweet This](#)

[✉ Email to a Friend](#)

Earth, Sun, and Moon

★★★★☆ 36 Reviews

SciPack

SciPacks are self-directed online learning experiences for teachers to enhance their understanding of a particular scientific concept and its related pedagogical implications for student learning. Unlimited expert content help via email and a final assessment both facilitate and document teacher learning.

The Earth, Sun, and Moon SciPack, co-developed between NASA and NSTA, explores the phenomena that can be explained by the position and motion of Earth, the Moon, and the Sun. The focus is on topics supporting Standards and Benchmarks related to the heating of Earth's surface by the Sun, phases of the Moon, and the apparent changes in the position of objects in the night sky. This SciPack also includes some of the basic details about Earth, including the characteristics that make it unique in our solar system, its composition, and its capacity to support life.

Grades

Elementary

Middle

High



Earth, Sun, and
Moon

Earth, Sun, and
Moon

- Here's what the SciPack looks like.
- Administrators can see your progress.

Earth, Sun, and Moon SciPack

Title	Completion	Last Accessed
General Characteristics of Earth	0%	
Introduction	0%	
Evidence That Earth is Spherical	0%	
The Earth System	0%	
Earth's Ability to Support Life	0%	
Summary	0%	
Evaluate	0%	
Our Moving Earth	0%	
Introduction	0%	
As the World Turns: Day and Night	0%	
Our Yearly Journey Around the Sun	0%	
The Nature of Earth's Orbit	0%	
Summary	0%	
Evaluate	0%	
Motion of the Moon	0%	
Introduction	0%	
The Orbit of the Moon	0%	
The Changing Face of the Moon	0%	
Eclipses of the Sun and Moon	0%	
Summary	0%	
Evaluate	0%	
Earth's Seasons	0%	
Introduction	0%	
Orienting Earth in Space	0%	
Hot or Not?	0%	
The Seasons	0%	
Summary	0%	
Evaluate	0%	
Earth, Sun and Moon Learning Outcomes	0%	
Key Ideas and Evidences of Understanding	0%	
Standards and Benchmarks	0%	
Earth, Sun and Moon Pedagogical Implications	0%	
Learning About Earth, Sun and Moon	0%	
Grades K-2	0%	
Grades 3-5	0%	
Grades 6-8	0%	
Grades 9-12	0%	
Safety Is the Last Word	0%	
Bibliography	0%	
Earth, Sun and Moon Final Assessment	Not Taken	
Earth, Sun and Moon Credits	0%	
Credits	0%	

Completion of the SciPack...

- We would like for you to finish this SciPack by **July 31** – before you go back to school!
- You can start and stop as needed.
- You need to make a minimum of 70% to pass the final assessment and you can take it up to 3 times.
 - You cannot retake the pre-assessment once you earn above 70% even if you haven't taken it 3 times.
 - Print the certificate when you pass the assessment successfully.
- When you complete the SciPack please write a “**Review**” of your experience.

How to access SciPack?

Go to the “My Library” tab in your Learning Center account.

The SciPack will be listed under your “Resources”

You can click title, resource type, or date added to sort the resources to make it easier to find.

Learning Center Home

Explore All Resources

Events & Opportunities

Professional Learning Tools

Forums & User Community

My Library

Class Hub

My Library

Search My Library

Search

+ Collections

CREATE NEW

Resources

UPLOAD MY OWN

All Resources

Title	Resource Type	Date Added
Earth, Sun, and Moon Details	SciPack	07/06/2016
Once Upon an Earth Science Book (PDF e-book) Details	e-book (PDF)	07/06/2016
Once Upon a Life Science Book: 12 Interdisciplinary Act... Details	e-book (PDF)	07/06/2016
Uncovering Student Ideas in Physical Science, Volume 2:... Details	e-book (PDF)	05/07/2016
Uncovering Student Ideas in Physical Science, Volume 3:...	e-book (PDF)	05/07/2016

Write a Review by July 31.

When you complete your selected SciPack provide feedback to NSTA and to other teachers regarding your experience with this learning tool. Select “Write A Review” at the bottom of the SciPacks Introduction page to begin.

Free via Your Subscription

Open in Library

Add to Learning Plan

Share

Share on Facebook

Tweet This

Email to a Friend

Earth, Sun, and Moon

★★★★★ 36 Reviews

SciPack

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Grades

Elementary Middle High

Community Activity
Saved in 5003 Libraries

+ Reviews (36)

Your Name as it will be Displayed:
(all of your reviews are connected even if you select different display names)

Leslie Suters (Knoxville, TN)

Leslie S (Knoxville, TN)

Leslie (Knoxville, TN)

Your Rating:
(5 stars is the highest)

--Select--

Title for your Review:

Your Review:
(2000 character max)